Emerald Horseshoe Vision Plan

A plan for balancing human and ecological needs in the foothills above Altadena, California

SUBMITTED TO:
The Altadena Foothills Conservancy
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Proposed Project Dates:
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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This is a proposal for the Altadena Foothills Conservancy to conduct a funded study of the foothills and valley between the densely populated northwestern San Gabriel Valley and Angeles National Forest. The study will explore potential local and regional trail and open space connections as well as improved environmental quality for the surrounding ecological features. Results of the study will contain principles, strategies and design for application in the project area allowing for immediate implementation of a regionally significant and environmentally sound open space system called the **Emerald Horseshoe**.

INTRODUCTION

The Los Angeles basin includes large cities such as Santa Monica, Long Beach, Pasadena and Los Angeles; and despite its proximity to the mountains and ocean, is definitively park poor. (See Figure 1). According to the Trust for Public Land, the national leader in park land research, the national average of park acres per one thousand residents in an urban area is 16.2 acres. Scoring among the lowest of the nation's cities are those in the Los Angeles basin. This area, which holds more than one quarter of the state of California's population, provides *half* of the national average amount of park acreage to Los Angelinos living within its city and county borders (8.2 acres for every one thousand people). A small 7.9 percent of land within the City of Los Angeles is dedicated to local parks that are responsible for providing users with recreation, open space, cleaner air, shade, relief from stress and further quantitative and qualitative benefits (Trust for Public Land 2006). With the projected population in the basin slated to increase by almost three million by 2025, enormous pressure is placed on existing recreational infrastructure (Southern California Association of Governments 2001).

Figure 1. Aerial photo of the Los Angeles basin with San Gabriel Mountains to the north and Pacific Ocean to the south. (Source: http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/Newsroom/NewImages/images.php3?img_id=8277)

Federal, state, county, city and local groups are beginning to move the Los Angeles basin and its residents toward a higher and healthier percentage of park space. In 2007, the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan was completed enacting a movement toward the creation of park space along the Los Angeles River. In 2004, the Sierra Club contracted with an organization called Amigos de los Rios to implement the Emerald Necklace Park Network that will create an interconnected park space along the San Gabriel and Rio Hondo Rivers. (See Figure 2). While this heightened interest in the creation of *new* park and open space will ameliorate future park-to-people ratios within the Los Angeles area, *existing* recreational infrastructure must receive attention and *linkages* between the new and existing recreational areas must be made if they are to meet the expected demands of the next twenty years.

Figure 2. Emerald Necklace Park Network plan showing additional potential regional connections. (Source: http://www.edenslostandfound.org)

A critical component of Los Angeles' open space infrastructure that requires attention and regional connection is its trail system. According to the results of a public opinion survey, the majority of Californians (88 percent) feel that having adequate places and facilities for recreation is very important, and 80 percent of Californians spend time in natural or undeveloped areas. A more recent survey revealed that walking has the highest participation rating (88 percent) and more than half of those surveyed walk on trails (California State Department of Parks and Recreation 1998). Within the Los Angeles basin two mountain ranges provide such trail access in a natural area: the Santa Monica and the San Gabriel Mountains. The San Gabriel Mountains, which have an average slope greater than the Himalayas, feature southern California's Angeles National Forest. This expanse of almost 700,000 acres of open space is within thirty minutes or less from downtown Los Angeles, Burbank, Pasadena and El Monte, all cities that are park poor, making it a significant recreational asset to inner-city and other residents who do not have immediate access to sufficient neighborhood parks. The County of Los Angeles (County) recently evaluated the Altadena Community in their Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP) for 2020. As a result of this assessment it was determined by the County that "The Altadena Crest Trail would provide much needed multiuse recreational trails to meet the needs of the County" (County 2006). The County

has begun to focus efforts on moving toward a quality, comprehensive trail system in the community of Altadena that will serve both its present and future residents and visitors.

The Altadena Crest Trail, an unconnected system of trails which combine some centuries old routes, historically traveled by foot, horse and mule train, is the largest trail resource in the Altadena community, an unincorporated area of the County of Los Angeles. (See Figure 3). While the existing trail is a resource for the County and its residents, it does not meet future recreation needs, is isolated from regional and nearby natural resources, and is fragmented. According to the County's SAMP for 2020, the community of Altadena is deficient in hiking trails by approximately 152 miles and will need an *additional* 191 miles of trails if it is to meet future recreation demands (County of Los Angeles 2004). As a result of this need to meet future recreation demands the County's Streamlined General Plan calls for the *expansion* of low-intensity outdoor recreation in areas of scenic and ecological value that is compatible with the protection of these natural resources (County 1993). Expanding the Altadena Crest Trail into a larger, more comprehensive and encompassing trail system called an "Emerald Horseshoe" may fulfill the County's requirement, and link people living in neighborhoods with few natural areas to those with many. Potential regional and nearby natural resource linkages may be seen in Figure 4. The Arroyo Seco, a seasonal river bed that runs from the foot of the San Gabriel Mountains to the Los Angeles River, lies just near the western end of the Altadena Crest Trail. The Los Angeles River, linked to the Altadena Crest Trail by way of the Arroyo Seco, runs south to the Pacific Ocean. Eaton Wash, emerging from Eaton Canyon, lies just near the eastern end of the Altadena Crest Trail and is a tributary to the Rio Hondo River, which in turn connects to the Los Angeles River.

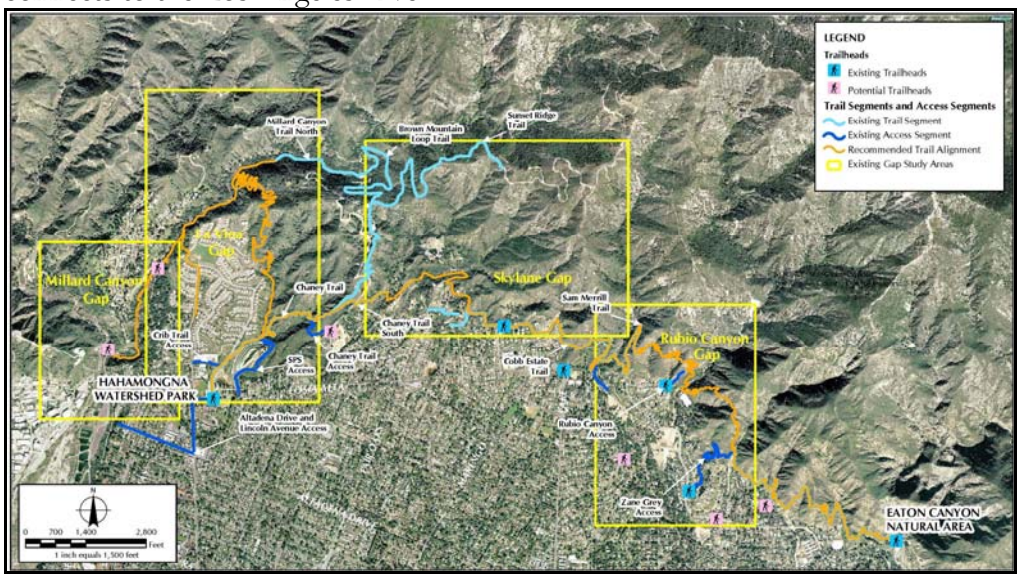

Figure 3. Altadena Crest Trail.
(Source: County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning, *Altadena Crest Trail Improvements Final Feasibility Analysis*)

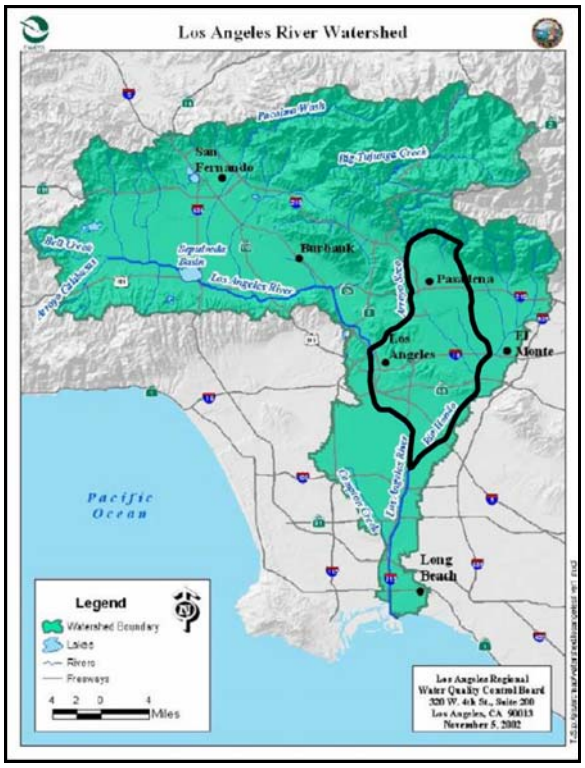

Figure 4. Regional Connections (shown in black)
(Source: http://www.ci.san-fernando.ca.us/city_government/departments/pubworks/current_projects/pacoima_wash /regional_maps/rm_1.shtml)

The last issue facing the Altadena Crest Trail is fragmentation. There are substantial breaks in the trails and widely separated trailheads. These issues point to larger problems occurring within the area. Gaps in the trails appear for many reasons ranging from a simple failure to keep up regular maintenance, severe erosion from poorly shaped paths, to flash floods, mudslides, brush fires and, in most recent decades, accidental loss of access due to development, on or near trail easements (Altadena Crest Trail Working Group). Three out of the four major gaps in the trails are the result of encroaching development. A development called La Viña is comprised of 272 individual homes and has, since 2005, been the subject of litigation between the County and the developer over trail access to lower Millard Canyon, which falls on land owned by the development's Homeowner's Association. Other private properties in the foothills hamper much needed trail access making encroaching development one of the most important issues concerning present and future planning for the area's foothills trails.

Development has not only had an effect on trail access but on the hydrology and wildlife of the area as well. Increased development in an area means an increased demand for freshwater, a resource that not only Altadena but the entire south-west of the United States is currently lacking. Lincoln Avenue Water Company, one of three small water companies servicing the community of Altadena, has said that it may put a moratorium on serving new housing and commercial developments as there is not enough water for additional customers (Kleeman 2007). Urbanization enlarges the area of impermeable surface forcing a more concentrated amount of pollutants such as oils, gas and metals from cars into nearby surface water and accelerates storm water runoff maximizing opportunities for erosion.

Such change in the natural hydrology of the foothill and mountain areas as a result of further development effects wildlife habitat. The Altadena foothills are home to numerous federally endangered species such as Nevin's barberry, the Arroyo toad and the Southwestern willow flycatcher, as well as many State and

Federal Species of Special Concern (County 2006). The foothills themselves provide an east/west wildlife access corridor between the steep mountain slopes and dense residential development at lower elevations (Altadena Foothills Conservancy). Many animal species need such movement corridors in order to respond to seasonal changes, and to survive sudden weather changes or longer-term conditions such as drought. Movement corridors are also essential for breeding, foraging and maintenance of genetic diversity in wildlife populations. These corridors also play a critical role in the repopulation of wildlife in areas decimated by catastrophic events such as the wildfires and debris slides that have occurred in Altadena. Present and future development encroachment must be carefully planned and the foothill trails must be sensitively designed if the hydrologic function and wildlife communities of the region are to be preserved.

While the County has contracted a Feasibility Study and Environmental Impact Report to be conducted on the Altadena Crest Trail itself, a *comprehensive* visionary management and action plan is needed to deal with *regional* trail and open space connections and ecological and cultural concerns in the County. The current issue facing the Altadena Foothills Conservancy is crafting a complete, locally and regionally linked, and environmentally sensitive vision for an Emerald Horseshoe trail system. How will the existing Altadena Crest Trail be linked to the Arroyo Seco, Eaton Wash and Los Angeles and Rio Hondo Rivers? How will the trail itself be connected despite the presence of private, and sometimes opposing, property owners? How will the trail be linked to the region's planned Emerald Necklace Park Network? How can the trail provide for the needs of multiple users yet tread lightly on the surrounding habitat? How will the trail system be successfully managed and maintained throughout the years? How can future open space acquisitions be successfully incorporated into the trail system? What role does the trail play in the regional plan for a wildlife corridor? These issues and questions can only be properly addressed through the development of an insightful and innovative **Emerald Horseshoe Vision Plan**.

ISSUES

Hydrology

- Hydrologic function is impaired by existing development in foothill communities.
- Future development in the foothills will further reduce availability of native water resources.
- Future development in the foothills will further degrade water quality.
- Future development in the foothills will increase erosion leading to further trail closures, damage to lower lying properties and more sedimentation in rivers and the ocean.
- Poorly planned recreation and trail development can be detrimental to hydrologic function.

Wildlife Habitat

- The quality of wildlife habitat along the foothills is degraded due to encroaching development.
- Encroaching development has contributed to the decline of a number of federal and state listed endangered plant and animal species.
- Population growth in the foothill communities may lead to more extensive urban land use that may further infringe on wildlife habitat and movement.
- Poorly planned recreation and trail development can be detrimental to wildlife habitat.

Recreation and Open Space

- Access to recreational amenities, such as trails, for cities adjacent to the foothills and within the entire Los Angeles Basin is insufficient.

- Access to natural open space areas for cities adjacent to the foothills and within the entire Los Angeles Basin is insufficient.
- Population is forecasted to increase in Los Angeles County over the next twenty years, placing increased demand on outdoor recreational amenities and open space areas.
- Publicly accessible lands along the foothills and throughout the Los Angeles Basin lack connectivity.
- Many creeks and washes emerging from the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains are inaccessible to the public.
- Some privately owned properties along the foothills require easements that are essential to an interconnected network of foothill trails.
- No cohesive plan has been developed for a comprehensive and regionally linked foothills trail.

GOAL

The goal of this project is to establish a comprehensive vision for an Emerald Horseshoe of open space that addresses recreation, wildlife habitat and hydrologic function, and that defines the role of the project area within the southern Californian landscape.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Hydrology

- Restore and preserve natural hydrologic function
- Protect undeveloped land vital to capture and storage of native water resources
- Improve quality of ground and surface water

Habitat and Wildlife

- Restore, preserve and reconnect habitat
- Preserve sensitive native species

Recreation and Open Space

- Provide sufficient resources to meet the outdoor recreational and natural open space needs of the present and future residents and visitors to the region
- Create a plan for trail access and linkages to existing and future recreation and open space opportunities
- Define appropriate levels of public access that are sensitive to operational costs and site impacts
- Establish local and regional priorities for trail and open space acquisition and connection

SCOPE OF WORK

The project will be executed by a team of three to four California State Polytechnic University (Cal Poly), Pomona Landscape Architecture third-year graduate students in a studio environment. Faculty guide the research and design, and the student team will receive input and expertise from the entire studio class. The project will follow the department's ecosystematic design methodology for sustainable land use planning developed by John T. Lyle in his book *Design for Human Ecosystems* (1999).

The project will incorporate multiple scales of investigation. The team will look at the northwestern San Gabriel Valley through the lens of a Los Angeles River watershed scale view in order to gain an understanding of natural processes occurring in the vicinity. Upon gaining an understanding of the role of area on a regional scale, site scale designs for the open space system will demonstrate the vision, and provide prototypical designs that may be used as models for the rest of the foothills area.

The creation of the Emerald Horseshoe Vision Plan will occur in four phases: Project Orientation and Site Research, Research and Analysis, Design Alternatives and Evaluation, and Design Presentation.

Phase 1 – Project Orientation and Site Research

During this initial phase, the 606 Studio will:

- Establish a strong understanding and relationship with the site through site visits and research.
- Interview stakeholders and interested community members.
- Gather data to help the group develop an understanding of the connections between the physical and cultural history of the site.
- Generate new ideas and refine scope of work based on research findings

Phase 2 – Research and Analysis

The focus of this phase will center on collecting and analyzing data.

- All data and stakeholder input gathered in the first phase will be reviewed. The initial studies will be analyzed to update the project goals and reveal the critical issues for the study. This relevant information will be modeled, mapped and recorded. The models will determine and describe relationships between the various scales and aspects of the project. Through this process, the team will understand the interrelationships associated with the site and the potential opportunities and constraints associated with those interrelationships.
- Research habitats and species found on site, with an emphasis on sensitive, rare and endangered species.
- Prepare an overview of the site's physical features and environmental processes.
- Research will evaluate other historic landscape and riparian and trail restoration projects as case studies for their information value and ecologically significant design solutions.
- Results will aid in the identification and shaping of the goals and vision for the Altadena Crest Trail.

The Tasks and Products generated from this stage will include site maps, GIS analysis and other models based upon data, materials and resources provided by the client and acquired through research. These may include:

- Boundaries – Geographical, jurisdictional and political
- Climate and rainfall patterns
- Geology and hydrology
- Current and historical vegetation
- Current and historical wildlife patterns and habitat
- Current land use and land cover patterns
- Historic and cultural resources
- Future land use/growth projections
- Circulation for pedestrians, bicycles and automobiles
- Additional pertinent planning documents

This data will culminate in a series of evaluative models:

- Wildlife habitat and movement possibilities
- Landscape habitat restoration possibilities
- Land use modeling
- Regional connection possibilities
- Trail alignment possibilities
- Prioritizing models

The goals and vision for the Emerald Horseshoe will be refined and evaluated during this process. This stage will culminate in a formal PowerPoint presentation at Cal Poly, Pomona held in mid-March.

Phase 3 – Design Alternatives

Exploration of design alternatives and planning solutions will be based on knowledge obtained through previous research. Alternatives will be derived from and reflect issues of concern and the project will begin to develop into an integrated whole. Alternatives will be evaluated based upon the project's goals and objectives.

A preferred alternative will be selected based on the preceding evaluations. A conceptual level vision plan will be formulated, possibly incorporating recommendations for community connection, trails, habitat corridors, restoration, recreational and interpretive opportunities, educational programming and historical connections.

This stage will culminate in late April and will include an informal presentation and review with the client for feedback.

Phase 4 - Design and Vision Plan Preparation

The resulting products will be a final design and a professional-quality document containing the process and work accomplished within the duration of the project, including an implementation program and best management practices. The report will include the following sections:

- Introduction, setting and history
- Issues
- Inventory of existing and historical conditions
- Suitability analysis
- Development of design alternatives and guidelines
- Evaluation of alternatives and recommendations
- Summary for future investigations and future planning efforts.

The client will be invited to review a draft of the final document. Client comments may be addressed, but to maintain academic integrity, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, and the 606 Studio retain the rights to all final editorial decisions in the final document.

Vision Plan Presentation

- Final PowerPoint 606 Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) Presentation will present the design and management visions at Cal Poly, Pomona in June of 2008.

PRODUCTS

The final product will be a professionally printed report that can be made available to parties involved, as well as the public, at the client's discretion. This comprehensive document will include plans, graphics, and charts detailing a vision plan for the Emerald Horseshoe as well as the team's analysis, synthesis, and criteria for evaluation. The document will also be available in digital format, along with key PowerPoint presentations made throughout the course of the project. Key graphics can be provided in high-resolution digital format, allowing for larger reproductions, or in web-ready format for incorporation in the Altadena Foothills Conservancy's website.

WORK SCHEDULE

Work on this project will begin in December 2008. A minimum of three presentations will be made at Cal Poly Pomona throughout the design process.

- Early January 2008 - The first presentation will focus on initial orientation/research stage.
- Mid-March, 2008 - The second presentation will focus on the analysis stage.
- Mid-June, 2008 - The third presentation will focus on the vision plan.
- By fall, 2008 - Plan printing and distribution

Client contact and community meetings will occur throughout the course of the project.

BUDGET

Personnel	$0.00
Printing ▪ 100 high quality printed copies of report – 50 distributed to client and 50 to University, faculty and students**	$8,000.00
Supplies ▪ Office supplies, copies of technical studies, maps	$500.00
Communication ▪ Fax, phone, mail	$500.00
Travel ▪ Approx. 10 visits x 60 miles x $.45/mi. = $270 ▪ One reconnaissance trip by the studio class $135 (5 cars x 60 miles @ $.45/mi.)	$405.00
Consultant Fees ▪ Copy editor, biologist, and technical experts	$2,000.00
Equipment Cost Share * ▪ Technology Fee	$3,500.00

606 Studio Fee * ▪ Facilities and resources of the studio available to students	$8,500.00
SUBTOTAL	$23,405.00
Cal Poly Pomona Foundation Overhead * @ 20%	$4,681.00
TOTAL	$28,086.00

* Fees required by the University
**Figure may be reduced if client wishes to print on-demand; University will still require 50.

Cost of Services Provided by Graduate Students and Cal Poly Pomona

Graduate Student Personnel • Four graduate students at 40 hrs/wk for 20 wks @ $20/hr	$64,000.00
Tuition Fees • Two quarters tuition for four graduate students @ $1,300/quarter	$10,400
University Costs Faculty Supervision • Two professors at approximately 15 hrs/wk for 20 wks @ $50.00/hr • Two professors at approximately 5 hrs/wk for 20 wks @ $50.00/hr	$30,000.00 $10,000.00
SAVINGS TOTAL	**$114,400.00**

FACULTY AND STUDENT PROFILES

PROFESSORS, STUDIO PRINCIPALS

Doug Delgado teaches advanced landscape planning in the Master of Landscape Architecture program at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.
As a graduate student he co-authored a widely circulated and often cited 606 project, "Reconnecting the San Gabriel Valley." Professionally, he has been actively involved in watershed planning throughout Los Angeles County, especially the San Gabriel River Watershed. His past works include the master plan and landscape design for the Rio Hondo and San Gabriel River Spreading Grounds and the open space plan for the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. He has also participated on the steering committees of the San Gabriel River Master Plan and the Ballona Creek Watershed Task Force and has been a frequent speaker at planning venues throughout the region. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from the University of California, San Diego, his Juris Doctorate degree from George Washington University and his Master of Landscape Architecture degree from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.

Gerald O. Taylor, Assistant Professor, ASLA, RLA teaches in both the graduate and undergraduate programs with a focus on landscape ecology, advanced landscape design, and planting design. He is committed to the pedagogy of community service-learning and his studio projects have recently won top student awards in the Community Service category from the American Society of Landscape Architecture (ASLA). He is actively involved in research and professional projects relating to ecological restoration, ethnobotany of indigenous peoples, sustainable campus ecology, and the healing and restorative properties of landscapes. In addition to being a Registered Landscape Architect in the State of California, Gerald is a Certified Arborist. He majored in Environmental Studies/Political Studies at Pitzer College, Claremont, CA and received his landscape architecture training at Cal Poly Pomona earning a BSLA and a MLA.

PROFESSORS

Phil Pregill is Department Chair and Director of Cal Poly Pomona's Landscape Architecture in Italy program, in addition to teaching design, history, construction, and graphics in both the graduate and undergraduate programs. He is co-author of Landscape History, and is currently conducting research on abstraction in the design process. Phil is also an accomplished painter, and his works have appeared in numerous juried competitions. He received his BA and his MLA from the University of Oregon.

STUDENTS

Hope A. Escario is a Masters of Landscape Architecture candidate at California State University Polytechnic, Pomona. She currently holds a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts from the University of Minnesota. Hope's focus is on urban redevelopment within the framework of ecologically inspired design. While studying at Cal Poly she chosen projects which expand her knowledge of the natural world yet reflect her background in social services. Hope believes in the legacy of public education, and that planning which is a result of community based design with an element of sweat equity provides our nations with the greatest opportunity for a sustainable future.

Tony Ignacio is a Master of Landscape Architecture candidate finishing his third year at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. He holds a dual Masters degree in Environmental Policy and Science from Indiana University's School of Public and Environmental Affairs with an emphasis in environmental

modeling. Previously, he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Marine Science from the University of San Diego with a minor in mass media communications. While at Cal Poly Pomona, Tony has continued his interests in environmental solutions through landscape design, and is currently working as a Landscape Designer at Cornerstone Studios in Santa Ana, California.

Valerie Jones is currently a candidate for a Master of Landscape Architecture degree at California Stat Polytechnic University, Pomona. She was born in Los Angeles, and raised in Los Angeles and Chicago. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Art History from the University of Oregon. Valerie has worked as a mural painter, an ESL instructor, and a special education teacher, teaching students with moderate to severe disabilities. She is particularly interested in the intersection between human culture, history and ecology—the organic, natural processes of social and ecological interactions, and the intrinsic human connection to history and the environment. Her focus areas include social justice, cultural preservation, open space conservation, international ecological restoration, sustainable design, and healing gardens. Valerie has lived and worked in Mexico and Nicaragua, studied in Italy, and has traveled extensively throughout Southeast Asia and Europe.

Michael Kelley is a third year Master of Landscape Architecture candidate at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Urban Studies from the University of Southern California and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of California, Los Angeles. He is originally from the harbor area of Los Angeles, California, is a lifelong Los Angeles resident, and has traveled to locations including Peru, Central America, Mexico, Turkey, New Zealand, Europe and Canada. He has over twenty years experience as a para-legal and attorney working with issues that include city planning, water pollution, construction, equal opportunity employment and small business representation. He is committed to the view that landscape architecture is not only a discipline, but also a philosophy for living that sees people as an integral part of the land that they inhabit. His interests in landscape architecture include urban design, brown fields, water policy, and computerized geographic information systems (GIS).

Erin Lybeck is currently pursuing her Master's degree in Landscape Architecture at California Polytechnic University, Pomona. She earned degrees in Plant Sciences and Art at the University of Arizona in Tucson. After working in molecular biology, she decided to return to the study of ornamental horticulture and garden design, which led her to landscape architecture. Her interests in this field of study center around relationships: between site and regional scales, between people and their environment, and between policies that guide design and the practice that implements them.

Robin Mark is currently pursuing a Master of Landscape Architecture degree at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in both Cultural Anthropology and Community Studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz. Before going back to graduate school Robin worked as an Associate Producer on documentary programs airing on The History Channel, Discovery Health, and PBS. Robin currently works part-time as a freelance designer for residential properties. Her interests in landscape architecture include community building, urban revitalization, and sustainable landscapes.

Jennifer Mitamura is currently pursuing a Master of Landscape Architecture degree at California Polytechnic University, Pomona. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in History from the University of California, Los Angeles. Jennifer's interest in environmental design has been cultivated by the Los Angeles region's lack of open space that hinders her love for outdoor activities. Jennifer looks forward to pursuing work that reconnects people with nature. She believes that creating positive connections

between individual lives and the natural environment in which they live will help promote the preservation and restoration of healthy ecosystems.

doreen Morrissey, student ASLA, is a third-year graduate student in the Landscape Architecture Program, candidate 2008. She also holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from California Institute of the Arts and a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies from Friends World College, a Quaker college focusing on independent study nationally and overseas. She is currently working with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority specializing in Geographic Information Systems (GIS). doreen believes in both the opportunities for and necessity of including urban ecological function in our built environments.

Tom Rosenberger is a third year graduate student in the Masters of Landscape Architecture Program at Cal Poly, Pomona and is a member of the Honor Society of Sigma Lambda Alpha. A native of Wyoming, he received a B.F.A. from the Conservatory of Theatre Arts at Webster University, Saint Louis, Missouri. He worked as an actor in Chicago from 1980-1993 and received the Joseph Jefferson Award for Performance in 1983. In 1993 he returned to Wyoming to work for the AIDS Education and Training Center, a federal office dedicated to educating health care professionals working in the field of HIV/AIDS and was invited by Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala to participate in a series of planning conferences in Washington D.C., designed to advise the Clinton administration's response to the HIV/AIDS crisis. He spoke at the World AIDS Conference in Vancouver, B.C. in 1996 and was a member of the Tri-National Committee for the Family, a joint venture between the U.S., Canada and Mexico to consolidate the North American response to HIV/AIDS. He has also written several optioned screenplays, was selected for IFP/West's 2000 Screenwriter's Lab and is a member of the Writer's Guild of America. In addition to his current studies, he is the owner of ENVision, a residential and commercial landscape design company.

Haley Schultz is in her final and year of graduate study in landscape architecture at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. She has received her bachelor degree from U.C. Davis in psychology and human development. Recently she has worked teaching children of all ages and learning abilities literacy, reading comprehension, and writing skills. She has also completed an internship at the landscape architecture firm, HRP Studio. Haley has many interests within the field of landscape architecture including symbolic forms in the landscape, the relationship between landscape and memory and/or behavior, design for specific user groups, therapeutic and healing landscapes, and historical preservation.

Holly Thompson is currently pursuing her Master's degree in Landscape Architecture at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies from Principia College in Elsah, Illinois. Her professional work experience includes a total of three and a half years in both the private and public sector of landscape architecture as a landscape designer, landscape architectural intern and grants coordinator. She currently works for the City of Pasadena's Department of Public Works, Parks and Natural Resources Division. Her interests in the field of landscape architecture include habitat restoration, watershed management and sustainable design using natural systems and processes.

Kim Trimiew is pursuing a Master of Landscape Architecture degree at California Polytechnic University, Pomona. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Classics from the University of Washington in Seattle. Kim has lived in four different regions of the western United States and gained an appreciation for western landscapes, but it was the cultural and ecological complexity of the Los Angeles area that brought her to the field of landscape architecture. Her interests include designing urban landscapes intended to

foster greater knowledge and appreciation for nature, finding open-space solutions for densely populated areas, social justice, and environmentally responsible design.

Tarrigon Van Denburg is a Master's Candidate for Landscape Architecture at California Polytechnic University, Pomona. She received her Bachelors of Art in Art, Art History emphasis from California State University, Fullerton. She graduated Magna Cum Laude. Prior to redirecting her career into the field of landscape architecture, she specialized in professional education certificates at California State University, Fullerton. Currently, she is working with Ken Smith Landscape Architecture on the Orange County Great Park project. Her interests include the sustainable redevelopment of former industrial sites, cultural conservation and historical preservation.

Dawn Waldron is a Master of Landscape Architecture candidate 2008, at the California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Horticulture from Brigham Young University. Her graduate studies in the Los Angeles region have provided her with a foundational focus around regional planning issues. She is currently working as a landscape designer for a private landscape construction firm. Her professional areas of interest focus on open space preservation and restoration, mixed-use development, and community stewardship of the environment.

Russell Wightman is currently in his final year of pursuing a Masters degree in Landscape Architecture at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, California. In 2001, he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Fine Arts from Biola University. During his undergraduate studies, he explored the relationship between objects and space and its ability to communicate meaning. These undergraduate explorations have carried into his professional experience in the field of interior design and, more recently, with a design and build landscape business in Altadena, CA, collaborating on landscapes with residential clients throughout the Los Angeles area. This past summer (2007), he participated in the analysis phase for the redevelopment of Panama City, Panama's Chinatown. His interests in the field of landscape architecture are focused on building strong communities by conveying meaning through experience, form, and phenomena; issues of social equity, aesthetics, and sustainable design form the core of his design philosophy.

STATEMENT FROM CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

The 606 Studio is a consortium of faculty and graduate students in the Department of Landscape Architecture at the California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. 606 Studio promotes the application of advanced methods of analysis, planning, and design to address important ecological, social, and aesthetic issues related to urban, suburban, rural and natural landscapes, with emphasis on preserving and restoring natural systems.

To maintain academic integrity, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona and the 606 Studio retain the rights to all final editorial decisions in the final document.

REFERENCES

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